

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the office action mailed February 23, 2000.

The examiner raised objections to the specification in that Figure 8 and page 16, lines 12-13 are inconsistent. In response, the specification is amended to be consistent with the Figure.

Claims 3-4, 5-6, 7, 11-13, 19 are rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph. The examiner contends that applicant's claims remove a character if it is a vowel. This, according to the examiner, is contradictory to Figure 8. The characters U in the column heading are not removed (column heading 240).

In response, applicant would like to point out that the vowels that are removed are lower case ones and not upper case ones. In this regard the specification is amended to specifically state that it is the lower case vowels that are removed. It is believed that this amendment removes any inconsistency that may have been in the application. Applicant regrets any hardship this inadvertent error may have caused.

Regarding claims 5 and 6 the examiner's argument is not fully understood. To the extent to which applicant understands the examiner's position the claims are amended by deleting "first". Each claim depends on 2 and stands on its own. With the amendment claim 5 covers the situation where the heading includes at least one lower case character which is removed. Claim 6 calls for at least one space which is removed. It is believed that these claims are clearly supported by the specification and the rejection under 35 USC 112 second paragraph should now be withdrawn.

Pertaining to claim 7 the examiner states: "Regarding claim 7, it is not clear that the first character typed is not defined, whereas the second character is defined as lower case (lines 11-12) and the third character is defined as space (lines 14-15). Applicant fails to understand what the examiner means by this statement. If the examiner means that the first character typed is not defined in the claim then he is correct. Applicant does not elect to define the first character type. It is an open type that the user can define. In case the examiner intends this language to mean something else, applicant respectfully requests that the examiner restate his position and applicant will make all efforts to amend the claims or respond to the examiner.

Regarding claims 11-13 the examiner contends that it is not clear that the first character type is not mentioned in claim 11. Applicant would like to direct the attention of the examiner to claim 11, lines 3 and 4 where the first character type is mentioned. It is believed that this

reference to first character type in claim 11 should satisfy the concerns of the examiner. If this does not satisfy the examiner applicant respectfully requests that the examiner be a little more specific and clear in raising the objections to claims 11-13.

Finally, regarding the examiner's contention to claim 19 as set forth on page 4 of the office action the claim is amended by changing "upper" to "lower". It is believed that this change should remove the rejection against claim 19.

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over figure 4, the prior art submitted by applicant. To support the rejection the examiner attempts to apply Figure 4 to applicant's claims.

In response, applicants respectfully disagree with the examiner and argue instead that the process step used to shorten the entry in applicant's claim is different from the process step used to shorten the entry in the prior art (Fig. 4). Because the process step used in applicant's claim is different from the process step used in Figure 4 (prior art), problems (set forth below) in Fig. 4 are eliminated. Therefore, applicant argues a novel process step eliminating problems in the prior art are clear evidence of unobviousness.

In addition, the display which is generated by the process step in applicant's claim is different from the one generated in Fig. 4. Because of the different structure in the information displayed provides more benefits to a viewer applicant argues that this again is evidence of unobviousness.

With reference to Fig. 4 and the related description in the specification the headings were generated by truncation. In other words the headings were truncated. To truncate the word or the heading means to shorten it by cutting off the end or top. Because the heading is truncated the problems which result in the display is described on page 9, lines 9-20 of the specification. Among the problem is that important information in the heading has been lost. For example, in columns 72 and 74 the truncation is bytes. Yet still in Fig. 2 bytes is qualified by bytes received and bytes sent. By not retaining some portion of the qualifier the table in Fig. 4 is not an intelligent replica of the original information.

In applicant's invention as shown in Figure 8 the headings are abbreviated. Abbreviation means to make shorter by removing or leaving out parts. Applicant's direct the attention of the examiner to any dictionary to look up the meaning of truncate and abbreviate. This difference will clearly show that the step of abbreviating is different from the step of truncating. As argued above a different process which solves the problems associated with the prior art Fig. 4 is evidence of unobviousness and applicant's claims are clearly patentable over the art of record.

In addition applicants argue that a comparison between Fig. 4 and Fig. 8 clearly shows a difference in the structure of the table. In Fig. 4 columns 72, 74, 76, 78 and 80 are not clearly distinguishable. In other words truncation results in information loss. In contrast Fig. 8, applicant's invention, the columns are clearly distinguishable and convey maximum information with minimum horizontal spacing. The benefits which the viewer obtains is minimum horizontal spacing and intelligent headings. It is applicant's position that this is clear evidence of unobviousness and the claims are patentable over the art of record.

It is believed that the present amendment answers all the issues raised by the examiner. Reconsideration is hereby requested and an early allowance of all the claims is solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joscelyn G. Cockburn
Joscelyn G. Cockburn, Reg. No. 27,069
Attorney of Record

JGC:ko
Phone: 919-543-9036
Fax: 919-543-3634